

SUBCHAPTER A—OFFICE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, GENERAL PROVISIONS [RESERVED]

SUBCHAPTER B—THE ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES, HEAD START PROGRAM

PART 1301—HEAD START GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

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Subpart A—General

§ 1301.1 Purpose and scope.

This part establishes regulations applicable to program administration and grants management for all grants under the Act, including grants for technical assistance and training and grants for research, demonstration, and pilot projects.

§ 1301.2 Definitions.

For the purposes of this part, unless the context requires otherwise:

Act means title V of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, as amended.

Budget period means the interval of time, into which a multi-year period of assistance (project period) is divided for budgetary and funding purposes.

Community means a city, county, a multi-city or multi-county unit within a state, an Indian reservation, or any neighborhood or other geographic area (irrespective of boundaries or political subdivisions) which provides a suitable organizational base and possesses the commonality of interest needed to operate a Head Start program.

Delegate agency means a public or private non-profit organization or agency to which a grantee has delegated all or part of its responsibility for operating a Head Start program.

Development and administrative costs mean costs incurred in accordance with an approved Head Start budget which do not directly relate to the provision of program component services, including services to children with disabilities, as set forth and described in the Head Start program performance standards (45 CFR part 1304).

Dual benefit costs mean costs incurred in accordance with an approved Head Start budget which directly relate to both development and administrative functions and to the program component services, including services to children with disabilities, as set forth and described in the Head Start program performance standards (45 CFR part 1304).

Head Start Agency or “grantee” means a local public or private non-profit agency designated to operate a Head Start program by the responsible HHS official, in accordance with part 1302 of this chapter.

Head Start program means a program, funded under the Act and carried out by a Head Start agency or a delegate agency, that provides ongoing comprehensive child development services.

Independent auditor means an individual accountant or an accounting firm,

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public or private agency, association, corporation, or partnership, that is sufficiently independent of the agency being audited to render objective and unbiased opinions, conclusions, and judgments.

Indirect costs mean those costs of a Head Start agency, as approved by the cognizant agency, the agency which has authority to set the grantee's indirect cost rate, which are not readily identifiable with a particular project or program but nevertheless are necessary to the general operation of the agency and the conduct of its activities.

Major disaster means any natural disaster or catastrophe which is of such severity and magnitude as to directly affect the capability of the Head Start agency of agencies providing Head Start programs to the damaged community to continue the programs without an increase in the Federal share above 80 percent.

Program costs mean costs incurred in accordance with an approved Head Start budget which directly relate to the provision of program component services, including services to children with disabilities, as set forth and described in the Head Start Program Performance Standards (45 CFR part 1304).

Responsible HHS official means the official of the Department of Health and Human Services who has authority to make grants under the Act.

Total approved costs mean the sum of all costs of the Head Start program approved for a given budget period by the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, as indicated on the Financial Assistance Award. Total approved costs consist of the Federal share plus any approved non-Federal share, including non-Federal share above the statutory minimum.

[44 FR 24061, Apr. 24, 1979, as amended at 57 FR 41884, Sept. 14, 1992]

Subpart B—General Requirements

§ 1301.10 General.

(a) Except as specified in paragraph (b) of this section, the following HHS regulations shall apply to all grants made under the Act:

45 CFR Ch. XIII (10–1–97 Edition)

45 CFR part 16 Department grant appeals process (except as provided in § 1301.34)

45 CFR part 46 Protection of Human Subjects

45 CFR part 74 Administration of grants

45 CFR part 75 Informal grant appeals procedures (Indirect cost rates and other cost allocations)

45 CFR part 80 Nondiscrimination under programs receiving Federal assistance through the Department of Health and Human Services—Effectuation of title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

45 CFR part 81 Practice and procedure for hearings under part 80

45 CFR part 84 Nondiscrimination on the basis of handicap in Federally assisted programs.

(b) 45 CFR part 74 is superseded as follows:

(1) Section 1301.11 of this subpart supersedes § 74.15 of part 74 with respect to insurance and bonding of private, non-profit Head Start agencies; and

(2) Section 1301.12 of this subpart supersedes § 74.61 of part 74 with respect to audit requirements for all Head Start agencies.

§ 1301.11 Insurance and bonding.

(a) Private nonprofit Head Start agencies and their delegate agencies shall carry reasonable amounts of student accident insurance, liability insurance for accidents of their premises, and transportation liability insurance.

(b) Private nonprofit Head Start and delegate agencies shall make arrangements for bonding officials and employees authorized to disburse program funds.

§ 1301.12 Annual audit of Head Start programs.

(a) An audit of the Head Start program covering the prior budget period of each Head Start agency and its delegate agencies, if any, shall be made by an independent auditor to determine:

(1) Whether the agency's financial statements are accurate;

(2) Whether the agency is complying with the terms and conditions of the grant; and

(3) Whether appropriate financial and administrative procedures and controls have been installed and are operating effectively. Head Start agencies shall either include delegate agency audits as a part of their own audits or provide

for separate independent audits of their delegate agencies.

(b) Upon a written request showing necessity, the responsible HHS official may approve a period other than the prior budget period to be covered by the annual audit.

(c) Unless otherwise approved by the responsible HHS official, the report of the audit shall be submitted to the responsible HHS official, in the manner and form prescribed by him or her, within 4 months after the prior budget period.

§ 1301.13 Accounting system certification.

(a) Upon request by the responsible HHS official, each Head Start agency or its delegate agency shall submit an accounting system certification, prepared by an independent auditor, stating that the accounting system or systems established by the Head Start agency, or its delegate, has appropriate internal controls for safeguarding assets, checking the accuracy and reliability of accounting data, and promoting operating efficiency.

(b) A Head Start agency shall not delegate any of its Head Start program responsibilities to a delegate agency prior to receiving a certification that the delegate agency's accounting system meets the requirements specified in paragraph (a) of this section.

Subpart C—Federal Financial Assistance

§ 1301.20 Matching requirements.

(a) Federal financial assistance granted under the act for a Head Start program shall not exceed 80 percent of the total costs of the program, unless:

(1) An amount in excess of that percentage is approved under section 1301.21; or

(2) The Head Start agency received Federal financial assistance in excess of 80 percent for any budget period falling within fiscal year 1973 or fiscal year 1974. Under the circumstances described in clause

(3) Of the preceding sentence, the agency is entitled to receive the same percentage of Federal financial assistance that it received during such budget periods.

(b) The non-Federal share will not be required to exceed 20 percent of the total costs of the program.

(c) Federal financial assistance awarded to Head Start grantees for training and technical assistance activities shall be included in the Federal share in determining the total approved costs of the program. Such financial assistance is, therefore, subject to the 20 percent non-Federal matching requirement of this subpart.

[44 FR 24061, Apr. 24, 1979, as amended at 57 FR 41884, Sept. 14, 1992]

§ 1301.21 Criteria for increase in Federal financial assistance.

The responsible HHS official, on the basis of a written application and any supporting evidence he or she may require, will approve financial assistance in excess of 80 percent if he or she concludes that the Head Start agency has made a reasonable effort to meet its required non-Federal share but is unable to do so; and the Head Start agency is located in a county:

(a) That has a personal per capita income of less than \$3,000 per year; or

(b) That has been involved in a major disaster.

Subpart D—Personnel and General Administration

§ 1301.30 General requirements.

Head Start agencies and delegate agencies shall conduct the Head Start program in an effective and efficient manner, free of political bias or family favoritism. Each agency shall also provide reasonable public access to information and to the agency's records pertaining to the Head Start program.

§ 1301.31 Personnel policies.

(a) *Written policies.* Grantee and delegate agencies must establish and implement written personnel policies for staff, that are approved by the Policy Council or Policy Committee and that are made available to all grantee and delegate agency staff. At a minimum, such policies must include:

(1) Descriptions of each staff position, addressing, as appropriate, roles

and responsibilities, relevant qualifications, salary range, and employee benefits (see 45 CFR 1304.52(c) and (d));

(2) A description of the procedures for recruitment, selection and termination (see paragraph (b) of this Section, Staff recruitment and selection procedures);

(3) Standards of conduct (see 45 CFR 1304.52(h));

(4) Descriptions of methods for providing staff and volunteers with opportunities for training, development, and advancement (see 45 CFR 1304.52(k), Training and development);

(5) A description of the procedures for conducting staff performance appraisals (see 45 CFR 1304.52(i), Staff performance appraisals);

(6) Assurances that the program is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, religion or disability; and

(7) A description of employee-management relation procedures, including those for managing employee grievances and adverse actions.

(b) *Staff recruitment and selection procedures.* (1) Before an employee is hired, grantee or delegate agencies must conduct:

(i) An interview with the applicant;

(ii) A verification of personal and employment references; and

(iii) A State or national criminal record check, as required by State law or administrative requirement. If it is not feasible to obtain a criminal record check prior to hiring, an employee must not be considered permanent until such a check has been completed.

(2) Grantee and delegate agencies must require that all current and prospective employees sign a declaration prior to employment that lists:

(i) All pending and prior criminal arrests and charges related to child sexual abuse and their disposition;

(ii) Convictions related to other forms of child abuse and neglect; and

(iii) All convictions of violent felonies.

(3) Grantee and delegate agencies must review each application for employment individually in order to assess the relevancy of an arrest, a pending criminal charge, or a conviction.

(c) *Declaration exclusions.* The declaration required by paragraph (b)(2) of this section may exclude:

(1) Traffic fines of \$200.00 or less;

(2) Any offense, other than any offense related to child abuse and/or child sexual abuse or violent felonies, committed before the prospective employee's 18th birthday which was finally adjudicated in a juvenile court or under a youth offender law;

(3) Any conviction the record of which has been expunged under Federal or State law; and

(4) Any conviction set aside under the Federal Youth Corrections Act or similar State authority.

(d) *Probationary period.* The policies governing the recruitment and selection of staff must provide for a probationary period for all new employees that allows time to monitor employee performance and to examine and act on the results of the criminal record checks discussed in paragraph (b) (1) of this Section.

(e) *Reporting child abuse or sexual abuse.* Grantee and delegate agencies must develop a plan for responding to suspected or known child abuse or sexual abuse as defined in 45 CFR 1340.2(d) whether it occurs inside or outside of the program.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0980-0173.)

[61 FR 57225, Nov. 5, 1996]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 61 FR 57225, Nov. 5, 1996, §1301.31 was revised, effective Jan. 1, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§ 1301.31 Personnel policies.

(a) Head Start agencies must establish and implement personnel policies for themselves and their delegate agencies. At a minimum, such policies must govern the following: staff qualifications, recruitment and selection, classification of positions, salaries, employee benefits (including leave, holidays, overtime, and fringe benefits), conflicts of interest, official travel, career development, performance evaluations, and employee management relations (including employee grievances and adverse actions).

(b) The policies must be in writing, approved by the Head Start Policy Council or Committee, and made available to all Head Start grantee and delegate agency employees.

(c) The policies must require that all prospective employees must sign a declaration prior to employment which lists:

(1) All pending and prior criminal arrests and charges related to child sexual abuse and their disposition;

(2) Convictions related to other forms of child abuse and/or neglect; and

(3) All convictions of violent felonies.

(d) The declaration required by paragraph (c) of this section may exclude:

(1) Traffic fines of \$50.00 or less;

(2) Any offense, other than any offense related to child abuse and/or child sexual abuse or violent felonies, committed before the prospective employee's 18th birthday, which was finally adjudicated in a juvenile court or under a youth offender law;

(3) Any conviction the record of which has been expunged under Federal or State law; and

(4) Any conviction set aside under the Federal Youth Corrections Act or similar State authority.

(e) The policies governing recruitment and selection of staff must require that before an employee is hired for a probationary period, the grantee or delegate agency will have conducted:

(1) An interview of the applicant, and

(2) A check of personal and employment references provided by the applicant, including verification of the accuracy of the information provided by the applicant.

(f) The policies governing recruitment and selection of staff must provide for a probationary period for all new employees that allows time to monitor employee performance and to examine and act on the results of criminal record checks discussed in paragraph (g) of this section.

(g)(1) The personal policies governing recruitment and selection of permanent Head Start staff must require that before staff are hired on a permanent basis, the grantee or delegate agency will have conducted a State and/or national criminal record check if required by State law and/or administrative requirement.

(2) An agency must not adopt an arbitrary policy of refusal to hire solely on the basis of arrest, a pending criminal charge, or a conviction. The agency must review each case in order to assess the relevancy of an arrest charge or conviction to a hiring decision.

(h) Grantees or delegate agencies must develop a plan for responding to suspected or known child abuse or sexual abuse of Head Start children whether it occurs inside or outside the program. The policy was originally promulgated in the January 26, 1977 FEDERAL REGISTER (42 FR 4970-4971), "Identification and Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect," and is published as an appendix to this section.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0980-0173)

[53 FR 5979, Feb. 29, 1988]

APPENDIX A TO § 1301.31—IDENTIFICATION AND REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The Chapter N-30-356-1 in the Head Start Policy Manual reads as follows:

N-30-356-1-00 Purpose.

10 Scope.

20 Applicable law and policy.

30 Policy.

AUTHORITY: 80 Stat. 2304 (42 U.S.C. 2928h).

N-30-356-1-00 *Purpose*. This chapter sets forth the policy governing the prevention, identification, treatment, and reporting of child abuse and neglect in Head Start.

N-30-356-1-10 *Scope*. This policy applies to all Head Start and delegate agencies that operate or propose to operate a Full-Year or Summer Head Start program, or experimental or demonstration programs funded by Head Start. This issuance constitutes Head Start policy and noncompliance with this policy will result in appropriate action by the responsible HEW official.

N-30-356-1-20 *Applicable law and policy*. Section 511 of the Headstart-Follow Through Act, Pub. L. 93-644, requires Head Start agencies to provide comprehensive health, nutritional educational, social and other services to the children to attain their full potential. The prevention, identification, treatment, and reporting of child abuse and neglect is a part of the social services in Head Start. In order for a State to be eligible for grants under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (hereinafter called "the Act"), Pub. L. 93-247, the State must have a child abuse and neglect reporting law which defines "child abuse and neglect" substantially as that term is defined in the regulations implementing the Act, 45 CFR 1340.1-2(b). That definition is as follows:

A. "(b) 'Child abuse and neglect' means harm or threatened harm to a child's health or welfare by a person responsible for the child's health or welfare.

"1. 'Harm or threatened harm to a child's health or welfare' can occur through: Non-accidental physical or mental injury; sexual abuse, as defined by State law; or neglectful treatment or maltreatment, including the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, or shelter. Provided, however, that a parent or guardian legitimately practicing his religious beliefs who thereby does not provide specified medical treatment for a child, for that reason alone shall not be considered a negligent parent or guardian; however, such an exception shall not preclude a court from ordering that medical services to be provided to the child, where his health requires it.

“2. ‘Child’ means a person under the age of eighteen.

“3. ‘A person responsible for a child’s health or welfare’ includes the child’s parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child’s health or welfare, whether in the same home as the child, a relative’s home, a foster care home, or a residential institution.”

In addition, among other things, the State would have to provide for the reporting of known or suspected instances of child abuse and neglect.

It is to be anticipated that States will attempt to comply with these requirements. However, a Head Start program, in dealing with and reporting child abuse and neglect, will be subject to and will act in accordance with the law of the State in which it operates whether or not that law meets the requirements of the Act. Thus, it is the intention of this policy in the interest of the protection of children to insure compliance with and, in some respects, to supplement State or local law, not to supersede it. Thus, the phrase “child abuse and neglect,” as used herein, refers to both the definition of abuse and neglect under applicable State or local law, and the evidentiary standard required for reporters under applicable State or local law.

N-30-356-1-30 *Policy—A. General provisions.*

1. Head start agencies and delegate agencies must report child abuse and neglect in accordance with the provisions of applicable State or local law.

a. In those States and localities with laws which require such reporting by pre-school and day care staff, Head Start agencies and delegate agencies must report to the State or local agencies designated by the State under applicable State or local Child Abuse and Neglect reporting law.

b. In those States and localities in which such reporting by pre-school and day care staff is “permissive” under State or local law, Head Start agencies and delegate agencies must report child abuse and neglect if applicable State or local law provides immunity from civil and criminal liability for goodfaith voluntary reporting.

2. Head Start agencies and delegate agencies will preserve the confidentiality of all records pertaining to child abuse or neglect in accordance with applicable State or local law.

3. Consistent with this policy, Head Start programs will not undertake, on their own, to treat cases of child abuse and neglect. Head Start programs will, on the other hand, cooperate fully with child protective service agencies in their communities and make every effort to retain in their programs children allegedly abused or neglected—recognizing that the child’s participation in Head Start may be essential in assisting families with abuse or neglect problems.

4. With the approval of the policy council, Head Start programs may wish to make a special effort to include otherwise eligible children suffering from abuse or neglect, as referred by the child protective services agency.

However, it must be emphasized that Head Start is not nor is it to become a primary instrument for the treatment of child abuse and neglect. Nevertheless, Head Start has an important preventative role to play in respect to child abuse and neglect.

B. *Special provisions—1. Staff responsibility.* Directors of Head Start agencies and delegate agencies that have not already done so shall immediately designate a staff member who will have responsibility for:

a. Establishing and maintaining cooperative relationships with the agencies providing child protective services in the community, and with any other agency to which child abuse and neglect must be reported under State law, including regular formal and informal communication with staff at all levels of the agencies;

b. Informing parents and staff of what State and local laws require in cases of child abuse and neglect;

c. Knowing what community medical and social services are available for families with an abuse or neglect problem;

d. Reporting instances of child abuse and neglect among Head Start children reportable under State law on behalf of the Head Start program;

e. Discussing the report with the family if it appears desirable or necessary to do so;

f. Informing other staff regarding the process for identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect. (In a number of States it is a statutory requirement for professional child-care staff to report abuse and neglect. Each program should establish a procedure for identification and reporting.)

2. *Training.* Head Start agencies and delegate agencies shall provide orientation and training for staff on the identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect. They should provide an orientation for parents on the need to prevent abuse and neglect and provide protection for abused and neglected children. Such orientation ought to foster a helpful rather than a punitive attitude toward abusing or neglecting parents and other caretakers.

[53 FR 5979, Feb. 29, 1988]

§ 1301.32 Limitations on costs of development and administration of a Head Start program.

(a) *General provisions.* (1) Allowable costs for developing and administering a Head Start program may not exceed 15 percent of the total approved costs of the program, unless the responsible

HHS official grants a waiver approving a higher percentage for a specific period of time not to exceed twelve months.

(2) The limit of 15 percent for development and administrative costs is a maximum. In cases where the costs for development and administration are at or below 15 percent, but are judged by the responsible HHS official to be excessive, the grantee must eliminate excessive development and administrative costs.

(b) *Development and administrative costs.* (1) Costs classified as development and administrative costs are those costs related to the overall management of the program. These costs can be in both the personnel and non-personnel categories.

(2) Grantees must charge the costs of organization-wide management functions as development and administrative costs. These functions include planning, coordination and direction; budgeting, accounting, and auditing; and management of purchasing, property, payroll and personnel.

(3) Development and administrative costs include, but are not limited to, the salaries of the executive director, personnel officer, fiscal officer/bookkeeper, purchasing officer, payroll/insurance/property clerk, janitor for administrative office space, and costs associated with volunteers carrying out administrative functions.

(4) Other development and administrative costs include expenses related to administrative staff functions such as the costs allocated to fringe benefits, travel, per diem, transportation and training.

(5) Development and administrative costs include expenses related to bookkeeping and payroll services, audits, and bonding; and, to the extent they support development and administrative functions and activities, the costs of insurance, supplies, copy machines, postage, and utilities, and occupying, operating and maintaining space.

(c) *Program costs.* Program costs include, but are not limited to:

(1) Personnel and non-personnel costs directly related to the provision of program component services and component training and transportation for staff, parents and volunteers;

(2) Costs of functions directly associated with the delivery of program component services through the direction, coordination or implementation of a specific component;

(3) Costs of the salaries of program component coordinators and component staff, janitorial and transportation staff involved in program component efforts, and the costs associated with parent involvement and component volunteer services; and

(4) Expenses related to program staff functions, such as the allocable costs of fringe benefits, travel, per diem and transportation, training, food, center/classroom supplies and equipment, parent activities funds, insurance, and the occupation, operation and maintenance of program component space, including utilities.

(d) *Dual benefit costs.* (1) Some costs benefit both the program components as well as development and administrative functions within the Head Start program. In such cases, grantees must identify and allocate appropriately the portion of the costs that are for development and administration.

(2) Dual benefit costs include, but are not limited to, salaries, benefits and other costs (such as travel, per diem, and training costs) of staff who perform both program and development and administrative functions. Grantees must determine and allocate appropriately the part of these costs dedicated to development and administration.

(3) Space costs, and costs related to space, such as utilities, are frequently dual benefit costs. The grantee must determine and allocate appropriately the amount or percentage of space dedicated to development and administration.

(e) *Relationship between development and administrative costs and indirect costs.* (1) Grantees must categorize costs in a Head Start program as development and administrative or program costs. These categorizations are separate from the decision to charge such costs directly or indirectly.

(2) Grantees must charge all costs, whether program or development and administrative, either directly to the project or as part of an indirect cost pool.

(f) *Requirements for compliance.* (1) Head Start grantees must calculate the percentage of their total approved costs allocated to development and administration as a part of their budget submission for initial funding, refunding or for a request for supplemental assistance in connection with a Head Start program. These costs may be a part of the direct or the indirect cost pool.

(2) The Head Start grant applicant shall delineate all development and administrative costs in its application.

(3) Indirect costs which are categorized as program costs must be fully explained in the application.

(g) *Waiver.* (1) The responsible HHS official may grant a waiver of the 15 percent limitation on development and administrative costs and approve a higher percentage for a specific period of time not to exceed twelve months. The conditions under which a waiver will be considered are listed below and encompass those situations under which development and administrative costs are being incurred, but the provision of actual services has not begun or has been suspended. A waiver may be granted when:

(i) A new Head Start grantee or delegate agency is being established or services are being expanded by an existing Head Start grantee or delegate agency, and the delivery of component services to children and families is delayed until all program development and planning is well underway or completed; or

(ii) Component services are disrupted in an existing Head Start program due to circumstances not under the control of the grantee.

(2) A Head Start grantee that estimates that the cost of development and administration will exceed 15 percent of total approved costs must submit a request for a waiver that explains the reasons for exceeding the limitation. This must be done as soon as the grantee determines that it cannot comply with the 15 percent limit, regardless of where the grantee is within the grant funding cycle.

(3) The request for the waiver must include the period of time for which the waiver is requested. It must also describe the action the grantee will take to reduce its development and administrative costs so that the grantee will be able to assure that these costs will not exceed 15 percent of the total approved costs of the program after the completion of the waiver period.

(4) If granted, the waiver and the period of time for which it will be granted will be indicated on the Financial Assistance Award.

(5) If a waiver requested as a part of a grant application for funding or refunding is not approved, no Financial Assistance Award will be awarded to the Head Start program until the grantee resubmits a revised budget that complies with the 15 percent limitation.

(Information collection requirements contained in paragraphs (f) (2) and (3) of this section were approved on January 26, 1993, by the Office of Management and Budget under Control Number 0980-1043).

[57 FR 41885, Sept. 14, 1992, as amended at 58 FR 26918, May 6, 1993]

§ 1301.33 Delegation of program operations.

Federal financial assistance is not available for program operations where such operations have been delegated to a delegate agency by a Head Start agency unless the delegation of program operations is made by a written agreement and has been approved by the responsible HHS official before the delegation is made.

§ 1301.34 Grantee appeals.

An agency receiving a grant under the Act for technical assistance and training, or for a research, demonstration, or pilot project may appeal adverse decisions in accordance with part 16 of this title. Head Start agencies are also subject to the appeal procedures in part 16 except appeals by those agencies for suspension, termination and denial of refunding are subject to part 1303 of this title.